

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Page 13, last paragraph, continuing onto page 14:

In accordance with the present invention, metal base construct 30 is formed with a bimetal construction. More particularly, the metal base construct 30 is composed of two different metals, a first metal 87 which engages tibia 15 and a second metal 90 which engages polyethylene bearing construct 35. Each of these metals is selected so that its characteristics are well suited to its particular function. More particularly, first metal 87 (i.e., the one that engages tibia 15) is selected so as to provide a superior bone-engaging face, while second metal 90 (i.e., the one that engages polyethylene bearing construct 35) is selected so as to provide a superior polyethylene-engaging face. By combining the different material characteristics of two different metals in base metal construct ~~10~~ 30, it is possible to simultaneously form a superior bone-engaging face and a superior polyethylene-engaging face. Among other things, by selecting two appropriate metals for the metal base construct, superior bone ingrowth can be achieved while still avoiding the aforementioned problems with "backside wear".

Page 14, last paragraph, continuing onto page 15:

For instance, a base metal construct ~~to~~ 30 may be formed whose bone-engaging surfaces are formed from titanium and whose polyethylene-engaging surfaces are formed from CoCrMo. This construction places a good bone ingrowth metal against the bone and a good polyethylene-engaging metal against the polyethylene, whereby to provide a significantly superior prosthetic tibial component 10.